

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /013 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:WALUNDY/DEPARADIS:ARCK
APPROVED BY EA/ROC:HJFELDMAN
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-----116536 240836Z /11

R 240235Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
XMT AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 075860

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:MILI, PINT, ETRD, BEXP, OTRA, TW

SUBJECT:EA/ROC WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. ELECTION OF A NEW PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT (LIMITED
OFFICIAL USE)

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTED PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO AS
PRESIDENT, AND TAIWAN PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR HSIEH TUNG-MIN AS
VICE PRESIDENT, ON MARCH 21 AND 22, RESPECTIVELY. COMPET-
ING UNOPPOSED, CCK WON 1,184 BALLOTS, 97 PERCENT OF THE
TOTAL POSSIBLE 1,219; HSIEH WON 941 VOTES, OR 77 PERCENT
OF THE TOTAL. 248 OF THE BALLOTS CAST IN THE VICE PRESI-
DENTIAL VOTING WERE DECLARED INVALID. THE 23 PERCENT SHORT
FALL IN HSIEH'S VOTE SEEMS TO REFLECT DISSATISFACTION AMONG
SOME OLDER MAINLANDER ASSEMBLY MEMBERS THAT CCK CHOSE A
TAIWANESE AS HIS VICE PRESIDENT.

2. DEFENSE EXERCISES (CONFIDENTIAL)
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WE HAVE CONCURRED IN THE HOLDING OF TWO JOINT US-ROC-DE-
FENSE EXERCISES -- AN EAGLE/LARK/BLUESKY AIR DEFENSE EX-
ERCISE IN APRIL AND FOOD CHAIN IX, THE ANNUAL US-ROC JOINT
COMMAND POST EXERCISE IN MAY. THIS FOOD CHAIN EXERCISE

FOLLOWS THE GUIDELINES WHICH WE WORKED OUT WITH DOD LAST

FALL. WE WILL BE INFORMING DOD AND THE EMBASSY THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO DISCUSSION OF NEXT YEAR'S FOOD CHAIN X WITH THE ROC UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A JOINT STATE/DEFENSE POSITION ON THAT EXERCISE IS FORMULATED.

3. EXTENSION OF INTERIM TEXTILE AGREEMENT (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

INTER-AGENCY CLEARANCE IS STILL BEING OBTAINED ON A DRAFT NOTE TO BE PASSED TO THE GROUPE CONTAINING THE PROVISIONS AGREED UPON IN THE THIRD ROUND OF BILATERAL TEXTILE TALKS WHICH ENDED IN WASHINGTON ON FEBRUARY 24. THIS NOTE PROBABLY WILL NOT BE READY TO GIVE TO THE TAIWANESE IN TIME TO REACH FORMAL AGREEMENT BEFORE THE JANUARY-MARCH INTERIM ARRANGEMENT EXPIRES. AT THE SUGGESTION OF THE ROC EMBASSY, AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES IS PLANNED FOR NEXT WEEK EXTENDING THE INTERIM ARRANGEMENT FOR SHIPPING TEXTILES BASED ON 1977 LEVELS FOR ANOTHER THREE MONTHS.

4. US/ROC ECONOMIC COUNCIL MEETING IN TAIPEI (UNCLASSIFIED)

THE SECOND JOINT MEETING OF THE US/ROC ECONOMIC COUNCIL, AND THE FIRST TO BE HELD IN TAIWAN, TAKES PLACE MARCH 28-30. ACCORDING TO BILL MORELL, USROCEC MANAGING DIRECTOR, AN ESTIMATED 300 AMERICANS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND. ABOUT 60 PERCENT OF THESE WILL TRAVEL TO TAIWAN FROM THE US, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND THE REMAINDER ARE BASED EITHER IN THE ROC OR NEARBY COUNTRIES. WE UNDERSTAND THAT EMBASSY ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR JOE KYLE HAS BEEN ASKED TO MAKE A SHORT TALK AT THE GATHERING. NO OTHER OFFICIAL USG PARTICIPATION IS CONTEMPLATED.

5. NRC COMMISSIONER KENNEDY'S VISIT (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

DURING A BRIEF VISIT TO TAIPEI THIS WEEK, NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONER KENNEDY HELPFULLY REITERATED AMERICAN VIEWS ON NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TO A VARIETY OF ROC OFFICIALS. HE ALSO INITIATED A CAREFULLY LIMITED NRC TRAINING PROGRAM IN NUCLEAR POWER PLANT SAFETY AND REGULATORY MATTERS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE075860
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WALUNDY/DEPARADIS:ARCK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780130-0057
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780328/aaaaaxaf.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 39c7adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3210599
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EA/ROC WEEKLY STATUS REPORT
TAGS: MILI, PINT, ETRD, BEXP, OTRA, TW
To: EA POSTS PORT MORESBY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/39c7adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014